Claims:

1. A system comprising:

a radio modem unit; and

an RF signal booster unit, wherein the booster unit is connectable to the RF signal booster unit with a connector adapted to transmit RF signals, wherein a DC offset at the connector is detected to determine whether the booster unit is connected to radio modem.

2. The system of Claim 1, wherein the connector connects to a connection line between the radio modem unit and the booster unit.

3. The system of Claim 1, wherein the offset detection circuitry is located within the radio modem unit.

4. The system of Claim 1, wherein the offset detection circuitry includes an inductor to allow the DC offset to be placed onto the connector, but not allow radio frequency energy to pass up into the auto-detect circuit.

5. The system of Claim 1, wherein the booster unit includes an element to reduce the DC power level to low if the radio modem unit is connected to the booster unit.

6. The system of Claim 5, wherein the elements in the booster unit include an inductor.

7. The system of Claim 1, wherein the voltage at the connector of the radio modem unit is high if no booster unit is connected but is low if a booster unit is connected.

8. A radio modem unit comprising:

a radio;

an RF signal connector operably connected to the radio, the connector being connectable to a RF antenna or a booster unit; and

a detector unit adapted to detect a DC offset at the connector to determine whether the connector is connected to a booster unit.

9. The radio modem unit of Claim 8, wherein the connector is connectable to a connector line which can connect the radio modem unit to a booster unit.

10. The radio modem unit of Claim 8, wherein the DC offset of the connector is high if no booster unit is connected but is low if a booster unit is connected.

11. The radio modem unit of Claim 8, wherein an inductor is used as part of an auto-detect circuit.

12. The radio modem unit of Claim 8, wherein the radio modem unit is connected to a booster unit, the booster unit including a circuit to pull the DC offset at the connector to low.

13. A system comprising:

a radio modem unit; and

an RF signal booster unit, wherein the booster unit is connectable to the RF signal booster unit with a connector adapted to transmit RF signals, wherein baseband signals transmitted to the connector by the radio modem are used by the booster unit to prepare for transmission.

14. The system of Claim 13, wherein a connector line is connected between the connector at the RF signal booster unit to a connector at the radio modem unit.

15. The system of Claim 13, wherein the baseband signals are power control signals.

16. The system of Claim 13, wherein the power control signals are used to control the power and channel.

17. The system of Claim 13, wherein the RF signal booster unit includes a switch in the transmit line that prevents RF energy from being provided to a power amplifier in the booster unit until a valid power controller message is received from the radio modem.

18. The system of Claim 13, wherein DC offset signals are sent between the radio modem and booster unit to indicate whether the radio modem unit is connected to the booster unit.

19. An RF signal booster unit adapted to amplify RF signals from a radio modem, the booster unit includes a switch that significantly attenuates the RF energy from the radio modem that is provided to a power amplifier in the

booster unit until a valid power control message is received from the radio modem.

20. The RF signal booster unit of Claim 19, wherein the switch includes a pair of diodes.

21. The system of Claim 20, wherein the current flows through the diodes, the RF impedance of the diodes is reduced, turning the switch to closed, but when current is not flowing through the diodes, the RF impedance of the switch is high.

22. Method of using a radio modem unit and an RF signal booster unit, the booster unit and radio modem unit connectable using a connector, the method comprising:

in the radio modem unit, detecting a DC offset on the connector to determine whether the booster unit is connected;

if the booster unit is connected, transmitting baseband signals on the connector from the radio modem to the booster unit to allow the booster unit to prepare for transmission; and

thereafter, transmitting an RF signal on the connector from the radio modem to the booster unit.

23. The method of Claim 22, wherein the connector line connects between the radio modem unit and an RF signal booster unit.

24. The method of Claim 22, wherein the baseband signal is the power control signal.

25. The method of Claim 24, wherein the power control signal includes a channel control and power level indications.